

CLAIMS

I claim:

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SUB
1. A portable and unobtrusive educational apparatus which provides self-paced instruction and which is carried by a person without requiring special accommodation or space, and which may be easily and flexibly manufactured and packaged compactly, comprising the combination of:

a key ring which operatively prevents inadvertent attachment or removal of keys while operatively permitting intentional insertion or removal;

an educational key tag having a means for attaching said tag to said key ring which is operatively prevented from inadvertent attachment or removal while operatively permitted intentional attachment or removal from said key ring, said tag additionally presenting an educational challenge.

10 2. The portable and unobtrusive educational apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an appropriate response to said challenge presented by said tag.

3. The portable and unobtrusive educational apparatus of claim 2 wherein said educational challenge is visible responsive to a first condition and said appropriate response is visible responsive to a second condition and not visible responsive to said first condition.

15 4. The portable and unobtrusive educational apparatus of claim 1 wherein said educational key tag further comprises a reinforced polymeric composition that is both durable and mark resistant.

5. The portable and unobtrusive educational apparatus of claim 1 wherein said educational key tag further comprises a paper and polymer laminate.

6. The portable and unobtrusive educational apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a key attached to said key ring.

7. A method for expanding vocabulary, comprising the steps of:
identifying vocabulary words;
imprinting said identified vocabulary words onto tags;
selecting a one of said imprinted tags;
inserting said selected one imprinted tag onto a key ring adapted to have a key removably attached therewith;
storing said key ring and said inserted, imprinted tag;
retrieving said stored key ring;
stowing said retrieved key ring; and
studying said selected one imprinted tag between said step of retrieving and said step of stowing.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said step of imprinting comprises the step of printing a single tag on demand.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein said step of storing further comprises storing a key with said key ring.

35 10. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of using said key on said retrieved key ring
between said step of retrieving and said step of stowing.

50 11. A key set and educational aid for convenient and self-paced education, comprising:
a spirally wound resilient metal key ring having a full turn of metal and an additional wrap
of metal overlapping said full turn, thereby forming a region of overlap between said full turn and said
40 additional wrap, said full turn and said additional wrap resiliently biased into contact with each other
within said region of overlap;

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45 a key having a lock engaging body and a head engaging said key ring, a hole passing through
said head through which said additional wrap may be passed by resiliently biasing said full turn and
said additional wrap temporarily apart from each other and passing said additional wrap through said
hole; and

50 a planar tag of standard key size having a hole passing through said tag through which said
additional wrap may be passed by resiliently biasing said full turn and said additional wrap temporarily
apart from each other and passing said additional wrap through said tag hole, and further having a
word on a first major surface and a definition of said word on a second major surface of said planar
tag.

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